



OFFICE OF THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE  
ROCKVILLE, MARYLAND 20850

Isiah Leggett  
County Executive

December 20, 2007

The Honorable Martin O'Malley  
Governor  
State House  
100 State Circle  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Dear Governor O'Malley:

I am writing to express my appreciation to you, Lieutenant Governor Brown, and the BRAC Subcabinet for responding to the concerns I shared with you earlier this month of residents and business operators in Montgomery County neighborhoods who will be most affected by the BRAC action at the National Naval Medical Center (NNMC). The revised version of the State's BRAC Action Plan that was released on December 17<sup>th</sup> recognizes the unique nature of this BRAC action in a densely populated urban area and identifies specific measures that can be completed by the 2011 BRAC deadline to address increased BRAC-related traffic, including intersection improvements and a study to determine the feasibility of a dedicated Beltway exit.

As you know, BRAC will add approximately 2,500 personnel and increase to nearly one million the number of visits to the NNMC campus each year. People who live and work in the area around NNMC, as well as the National Institutes of Health and Suburban Hospital, know best what the impacts of this BRAC action will be if these challenges go unmet. If patients or visitors bound for NNMC are mired in gridlock that has been exacerbated by BRAC in the nation's second most congested region, then we will have failed in the mission to make the Walter Reed National Military Medical Center in Bethesda the world-class hospital for our service men and women.

It is essential that all levels of government work together to devise solutions to the impending traffic crisis in Bethesda. I look forward to working with you and your Administration to secure funding for the important projects identified in the Action Plan, and to develop long-term solutions that will be needed to fully address BRAC-related transportation needs in Montgomery County. I also anticipate working with you to secure federal funding for our BRAC-related infrastructure needs because, after all, the BRAC action in Bethesda is a federal mandate for which the federal government must assume a large share of the responsibility.

Again, thank you for your leadership in confronting the many challenges of BRAC in Montgomery County and across the State of Maryland.

Sincerely,

**Original signed by**  
**Isiah Leggett**  
Isiah Leggett  
County Executive